R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

RE: THE TITLE

The title has been amended to more clearly indicate the nature of the invention to which the claims are directed.

RE: THE DRAWINGS

Figures 2, 3, 4, 5A, 5B and 26 have been amended to be labeled as "PRIOR ART" as required by the Examiner.

In addition, Figure 2 has further been amended to add reference numerals 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, Figure 3 has further been amended to add reference numerals 102 and 105, Figures 5A and 5B have further been amended to add reference numerals 105, 106 and 107, and Figure 26 has further been amended to add reference numerals 200, 201, 202, 203, 204 and 205.

Submitted herewith are corrected sheets of formal drawings which incorporate the amendments and annotated sheets showing the changes made thereto.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner's objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

RE: THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct various minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware, including all of the informalities pointed out by the Examiner.

The specification has also been amended to refer to the reference numerals added to amended Figures 2, 3, 5A, 5B and 26. Namely, the specification has been amended to refer to reference numerals: 100 corresponding to the PNG image format file, 101 corresponding to the IHDR header chunk, 102 corresponding to the ancillary chunk, 103 corresponding to the IDAT image data chunk, 104 corresponding to the IEND image trailer chunk, 105 corresponding to the text (tEXt) chunk, 106 corresponding to the "keyword" element of the text chunk 105, and 107 corresponding to the "text" element of the text chunk 105.

In addition, the specification has been amended to refer to reference numeral 200 corresponding to the data format of the Exif standard image file and reference numerals 201-205 respectively corresponding to the header, the image additional information, the photographed original image, the tag information, and the thumbnail image data of the Exif standard image file 200.

The specification has also been amended at page 11, line 22 and page 13, line 2 to clarify that the operation returns to

Step S12 when end has not been directed at Step S30. Thus, if end has not been directed (Step S30) the operation waits for key operation (Step S12) as disclosed in Figure 7. Page 16, line 15 and page 17, line 19, moreover, have been amended to clarify that the operation returns to Step S42 when end has not been directed at Step S64. Thus, if end has not been directed (Step S64) the operation waits for key operation (Step S42) as disclosed in Figure 13. Page 20, line 5 and page 21, line 22 have been amended to clarify that the operation returns to Step S72 when process end has not been ordered at Step S94. Thus, if process end has not been ordered (Step S94) the operation waits for key operation (Step S72) as disclosed in Figure 16. And page 30, line 26 has been amended to clarify that the operation returns to Step S152 when processing end has not been ordered at Step S180. Thus, if processing end has not been ordered (Step S180) the operation waits for key operation (Step S152) as disclosed in Figure 24.

Still further, the Summary of the Invention has been amended to better accord with the amended claims.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered, and that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

RE: THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 have been amended to correct the informalities pointed out by the Examiner, as well as to make some minor grammatical improvements and/or to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. And it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 1-11 are not related to patentability, and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that claims 12-18 have been canceled, thereby rendering moot the rejection of claims 12-16 under 35 USC 112 and the rejection of claim 18 under 35 USC 101.

Still further, new claim 19 has been added to depend from claim 1 and to recite that the display control means commences changing the display of the image based on detected timing of the image display control information included in the image file, and new claims 20 and 21 have been added to recite a display processing method and a computer-readable storage medium having a display control program stored thereon, in proper U.S. form.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered, and that the objections to the claims and the rejections under 35 USC 112 and 35 USC 101 be withdrawn.

RE: THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claims 1-3, 10-13, 17 and 18 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Kuwata et al (US 2002/0030833), and claims 4-9 and 14-16 were all rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of Kuwata et al with one of Kurashina (USP 6,297,836), Slatter (US 2003/0025812), and Muramatsu (US 2002/0173906). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 1, a display processing device is provided which includes storage means for storing an image file, display means for displaying an image based on the image file stored in the storage means, and display control means for controlling the display means to return directly to a first display state from a second display state in which the display means display a sequentially changing image which is significantly different from the first display state. And as recited in amended independent claims 1, the sequential changing of the image in the second display state is based on image display control information included in the image file.

New independent claim 20, moreover, is directed to a display processing method which includes the feature of controlling a display to return directly to a first display state from a second display state in which the display displays a sequentially

changing image which is significantly different from the first display state. And new independent claim 21 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium having a program stored thereon that is executable by a computer to control a display to return directly to a first display state from a second display state in which the display means display a sequentially changing image which is significantly different from the first display state.

Thus, according to the claimed present invention, the display is controlled to return directly to a first display state from a second display state to which the display has been switched and in which the display sequentially changes to an image significantly different from the first display state, as described in the specification at, for example, page 12, line 15 to page 13, line 4 with reference to Figs. 7, 9A-9C, 10A-10C and 11A-11C. Specifically, the display maintains an image (a first display state) until an image file text chunk is found which includes a particular keyword and subsequent text indicative of a desired processing or modification of the image, such as a panorama, zoom or wide shot (see page 12, lines 15-25). When the keyword is found in the image file text chunk, the display processing device performs the desired image modification resulting in a second display state (which may be any of the image processing techniques shown in Figs. 9A-9C, 10A-10C and 11A-11C). In the second display state, the image is modified to

be significantly different, e.g., enlarged, than the image in the first display state. The second display state persists until a function key is operated, which causes a suspension of the playback or image modification, i.e., a return to the first display state.

In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that according to the claimed present invention, the image display control information for performing the display control (i.e., the sequential changing of the image in the second display state) is included in the same image file as the displayed image. See the disclosure in the specification at, for example, on page 12, lines 6-10. In one embodiment, the image file includes an image file chunk which can include a text chunk having a keyword and subsequent text indicative of the desired processing of the image (see Figs. 6A-6D). Accordingly, with the technique of the claimed present invention, a change in the display of an image may be adjusted based on the image file itself.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art references cited by the Examiner do not disclose, teach or suggest a display processing device, method or program having the above described features of the claimed present invention.

In particular, it is respectfully submitted that Kuwata et al does not disclose performing a sequential change of an image to obtain a second display state different than a first display

state, wherein the change is determined based on information included in the image file which includes the image. Instead, Kuwata et al discloses output control information included in the image file which relates solely to optimizing the image output results and not to any sequential change or variation of the image to provide significantly different images.

Kurashina does not disclose returning directly to a first display state from a second display state in which a display is sequentially changed to be significantly different from the first display state. Instead, Kurashina discloses performing an automatic scrolling function without any direct return to a non-scroll display state.

And Slatter and Muramatsu also do not mention control means which enable a return to a first display state from a second display state in which an image is being sequentially changed, and including image control information in an image file which can be used to sequentially change the image.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1 and new independent claims 20 and 21, as well as claims 2-11 and 19 depending from claim 1, all clearly patentably distinguish over Kuwata et al, Kurashina, Slatter and Muramatsu taken singly or in any combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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